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**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

09/659,951

Examiner

Russell Frejd

Pat

Applicant(s)

GURPINAR ET AL.

Art Unit

2128

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's RCE/IDS received 6 June 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-42.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 12 September 2000 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
  - a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some\*   c) ☐ None   of the:
    1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
    2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
    3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
  6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
    - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
      - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
    - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),  
Paper No./Mail Date 6.6.05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit  
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),  
Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Russell Frejd*  
**RUSSELL FREJD**  
**PRIMARY EXAMINER**

In re Application of: Gurpinar et al.

***Allowance of Application # 09/659,951***

1. The following communication is in response to applicant's RCE/IDS, received on 6-June-2005.

***Examiner's Amendment***

2. An Examiner's Amendment to the record appears below. This Examiner's Amendment was originally presented with the Notice of Allowance dated 15-March-2005. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 C.F.R. 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee. Authorization for this Examiner's Amendment was given by Danita Maseles (Reg. No. 33,419) on 7-March-2005.

**2.1** In the Claims:

On line 1 of claims 1, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 40 and 42; Change "A method" to --A computer-implemented method--.

***Reasons for Allowance***

3. The following is an Examiner's Statement of Reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter. The instant application is directed to a non-obvious improvement over the information described in the related prior art, specifically the article authored by Smith et al., entitled *The Road Ahead to Real-time Oil and Gas Reservoir Management*. The improvement

In re Application of: Gurpinar et al.

comprises a computer-implemented method of managing a fluid and/or gas reservoir which assimilates diverse data having different acquisition time scales and spatial scales of coverage for iteratively producing a reservoir development plan that is used for optimizing an overall performance of the reservoir. This patentable distinction is generally included in each of the various embodiments of the present invention, said embodiments represented by independent claims, nos. 1, 29, 31, 33, 35, 37, 39, 40 and 42. The art of record, either individually or in combination, fails to teach, suggest, or render obvious the useful, concrete and tangible <method of managing a fluid and/or gas reservoir> having the corresponding structure which is disclosed in the specification and equivalents thereof at least at page 5, line 19 through page 17, line 3, and Figures 1-29. In view of the foregoing, the claims of the present application are found to be patentable over the prior art.

### ***Response Guidelines***

4. Any comments considered necessary by applicant **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should clearly be labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance".

#### **4.1 Any response to the Examiner in regard to this allowance should be**

**directed to:** Russell Frejd, telephone number (571) 272-3779, Monday-Friday from 0630 to 1500 ET, **or** the examiner's supervisor, Jean Homere, telephone number (571) 272-3780.

**mailed to:** Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**or faxed to:** (571) 273-8300


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*Hand-delivered responses should be brought to the Customer Service Window, Randolph Building, 401  
Dulany Street, Alexandria, VA, 22314.*

**Date: 25-July-2005**

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "RUSSELL FREJD". The signature is written in a cursive style with a horizontal line underneath it.

**RUSSELL FREJD  
PRIMARY EXAMINER**